

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02208 060906Z

17
ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 SR-02 ORM-01 NSC-05

SCA-01 H-02 VO-03 INSE-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

USIA-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /090 W
----- 034583

R 060800Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4613
INFO CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY MANILA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 2208

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, VS, PR, SW
SUBJECT: SWEDISH SHIPPING COMPANY ASKS TO TRANSFER SOUTH VIETNAMESE
REFUGEES TO US HANDS

REF: STOCKHOLM 2114

1. DIRECTOR OLOV NORDLING OF SWEDISH EAST ASIAN COMPANY
(SVENSKA OSTASIATISKA KOMPANIET AB) ASKED EMBASSY BY TELEPHONE
MAY 5 IF USG COULD TAKE 27 SOUTH VIETNAMESE, RESCUED IN
WATERS OFF SOUTH VIETNAM, FROM COMPANY'S VESSEL M/S JAPAN
(SWEDISH FLAG), EN ROUTE FROM BANGKOK AND DUE IN MANILA
AFTERNOON OF MAY 6 LOCAL TIME.

2. NORDLING REPORTED IN FIRST CONVERSATION THAT, ACCORDING
TO COMPANY'S AGENT IN MANILA, PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT WAS
PREPARED TO IMPOUND VESSEL IF IT ENTERED PHILIPPINE TERRI-
TORIAL WATERS WITH SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES.

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3. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, NORDLING SAID SWEDISH EMBASSY

IN MANILA HAD JUST PREVAILED UPON GOP TO PERMIT M/S JAPAN TO DOCK, PROVIDING REFUGEES REMAINED IN TRANSIT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION THAT HE TAKE MATTER UP IN FIRST INSTANCE WITH SWEDISH MFA AND WITH PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM, NORDLING SAID HE HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MINISTRY, BUT HAD TURNED TO AMEMBASSY IN HOPE THAT SOME FACILITY MIGHT EXIST FOR QUICK TRANSFER OF REFUGEES TO USG HANDS. NORDLING APPEARED READILY TO ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS MATTER TO SWEDISH GOVERNMENT.

5. COMMENT. AS INDICATED REFTTEL, GOS HAS NOT DEFINED ITS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO ACCEPTING SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. IN ANY EVENT, IT IS UNLIKELY TO TAKE MANY OF THEM. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY HAS NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT OUR GUESS, WE THINK IT POSSIBLE THAT MFA ADVISED NORDLING TO CALL US AS FIRST TRY TOWARD SOLVING PROBLEM BUT DID NOT LEAD HIM TO EXPECT SUCCESS. STRAUZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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